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Speech delivered by Adam Graycar:

"Dealing with delinquency: diverse challenges"

at the conference 'Youth justice 2000: managing a new world in transit', Singapore, 15 September 2000

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Youth Justice 2000 - Managing a New World in Transit

“Dealing with Delinquency: Diverse Challenges”

Singapore

15 September 2000

Adam Graycar

Director



- reducing the supply of motivated offenders
- making crime more difficult to commit

Domains

- Policy and practice that achieve social objectives
- Many domains link to develop social capital
 - improved feelings of confidence, pride and safety
 - enhanced access to employment and training
 - increased levels of education
 - accessible and relevant local services

Risk and Protective Factors Associated with Anti-Social and Criminal Behaviour

Childhood Factors

Family Factors

School Factors

Life Factors

Community and Cultural Factors

Three domains

- Police and young people
- Diverting young offenders from the criminal justice system
- Sport and crime prevention

Police and Young People

- behavioural incivility
- theory of defiance
- enforcing trust

Defiance Theory

1. The offender defines a criminal sanction as unfair
2. The offender is poorly bonded to or alienated from the community
3. The offender perceives the action as a personal rejection
4. The offender denies or refuses to acknowledge the shame he or she suffers

Diverting young offenders from the criminal justice system

1. Courts are overloaded
2. Unproductive and stigmatising consequences
3. Diversion is an opportunity for a second chance

Principles underlying restorative justice

- Crime is primarily an offence against human relationships
- Processes that create a safer, respectful and cooperative relationship
- ‘Make things as right as possible’ for all parties
- Offenders are encouraged to learn new ways of acting and participating in the community
- Maximum voluntary cooperation and minimum coercion
- When offenders are uncooperative the intervention of an outside authority may be necessary
- Uncooperative offenders should be encouraged to learn values, ethics, responsibility, accountability and civility
- The community should be setting for restorative justice

Diverting young offenders from the criminal justice system

- family group conferencing
- victim-offender mediation
- reintegrative shaming

Sport and crime prevention

1. Sport integrated with other interventions
2. Sport intervention occurs in a supportive social context
3. Sport interventions conducted in collaboration with other sectors
4. Design and fund sporting infrastructure considering local conditions
5. Tailor programs to the particular needs of the community
6. Elite sporting bodies can provide interventions
7. These must be integrated into other programs
8. Sports administrators should plan programs that espouse desired values

- a motivated offender
- a suitable target
- an opportunity